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By: Laurie A. Boylan  
Laurie A. Boylan

**PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR(S) : Zhigang Fan

TITLE : IMAGE TYPE CLASSIFICATION USING  
COLOR DISCRETENESS FEATURES

APPLICATION NO. : 10/040,692

FILED : January 7, 2002

CONFIRMATION NO. : 4999

EXAMINER : Amir Alavi

ART UNIT : 2621

LAST OFFICE ACTION : November 1, 2004

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : A1648  
XERZ 2 00458

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

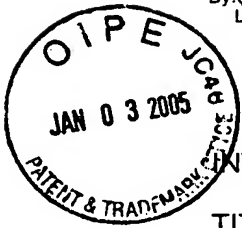
LETTER

The Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. Patent Applications:

<u>U.S. Serial No.</u>	<u>Atty. Docket</u>
09/966,030	XERZ 2 00433
09/965,922	XERZ 2 00435
09/965,880	XERZ 2 00456
10/040,693	XERZ 2 00459

The subject matter contained in each of these co-pending U.S. Patent Applications is related to the above-identified application, and thus may be relevant to the subject matter of the instant application.

These co-pending applications are not to be construed as prior art. By bringing these co-pending application to the attention of the Examiner, the Applicant does **NOT** waive any confidentiality concerning these co-pending applications. 35 U.S.C. 122 (1988); see Medical Laboratory Automation Inc. v. Labcon Inc., 500 F.Supp. 54, 58 n.5 (N.D. Ill. 1980), aff'd, 670 F.2d 671 (7th Cir. 1981). Furthermore, if said co-pending



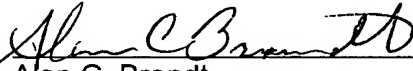
applications should not mature into a patent, said co-pending applications should be preserved in secrecy under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 122 (1988) and 37 C.F.R. 1.14.

Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

Respectfully submitted,

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MINNICH & MCKEE, LLP

27 December 2004  
Date

  
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